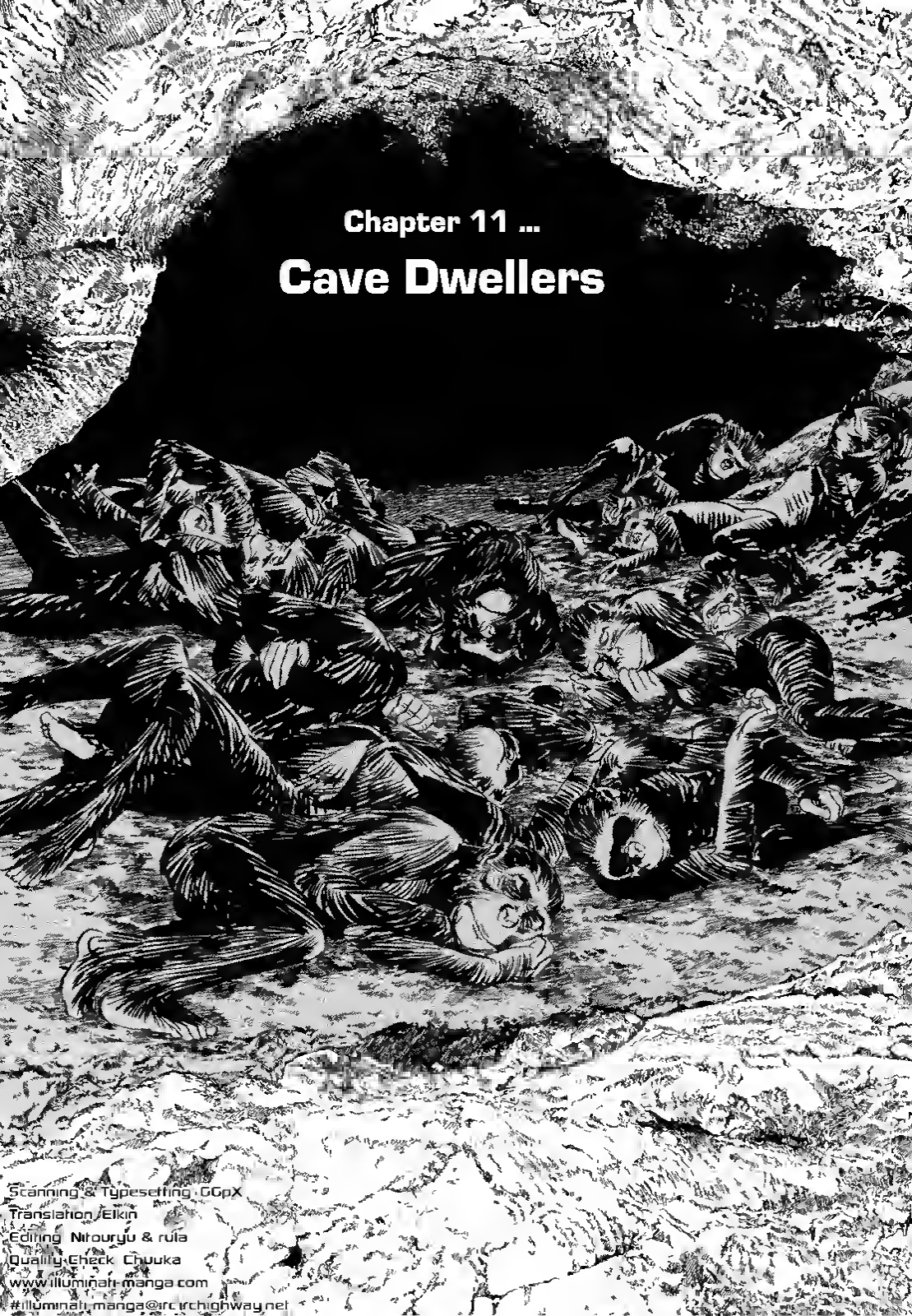
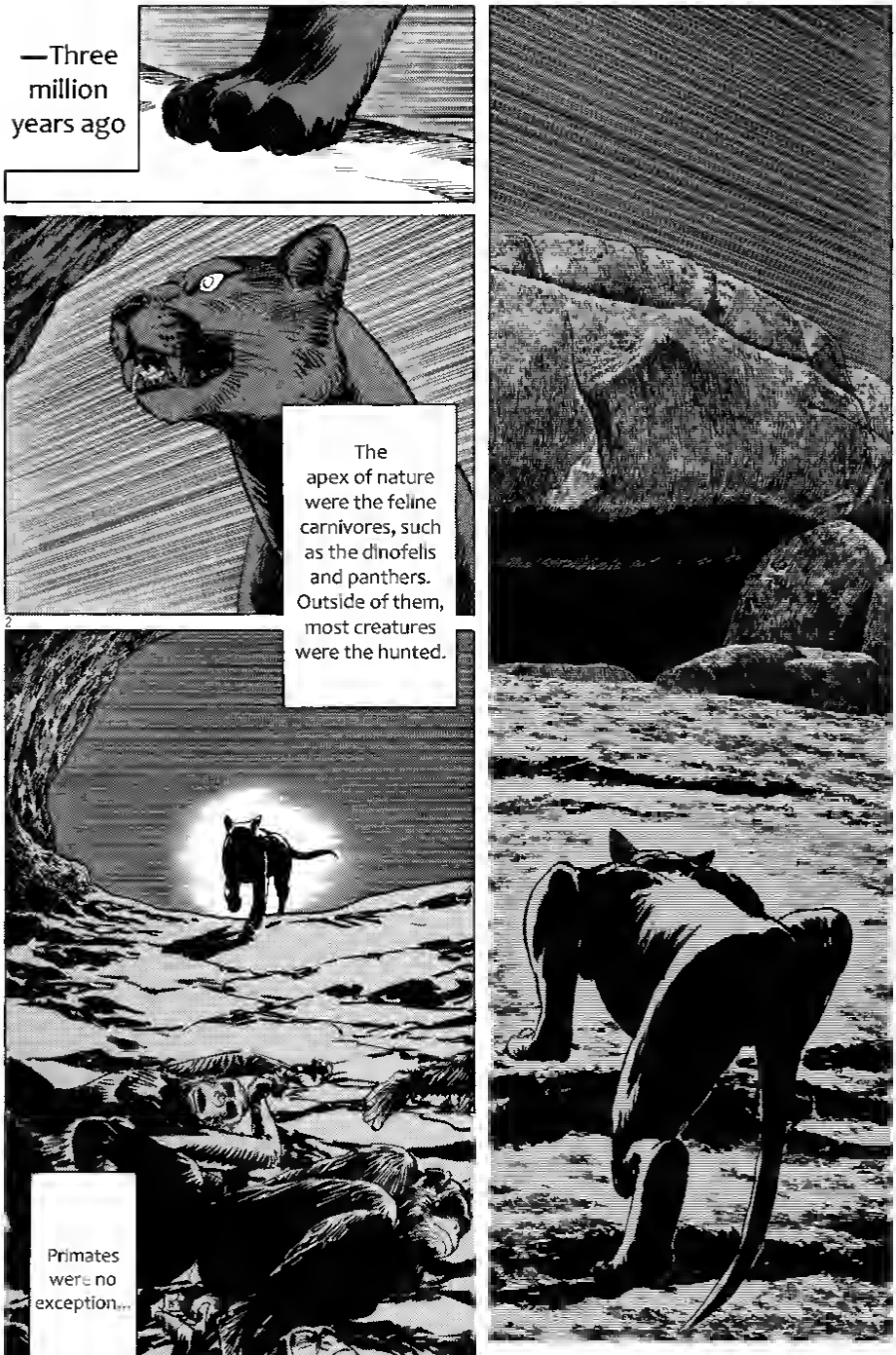
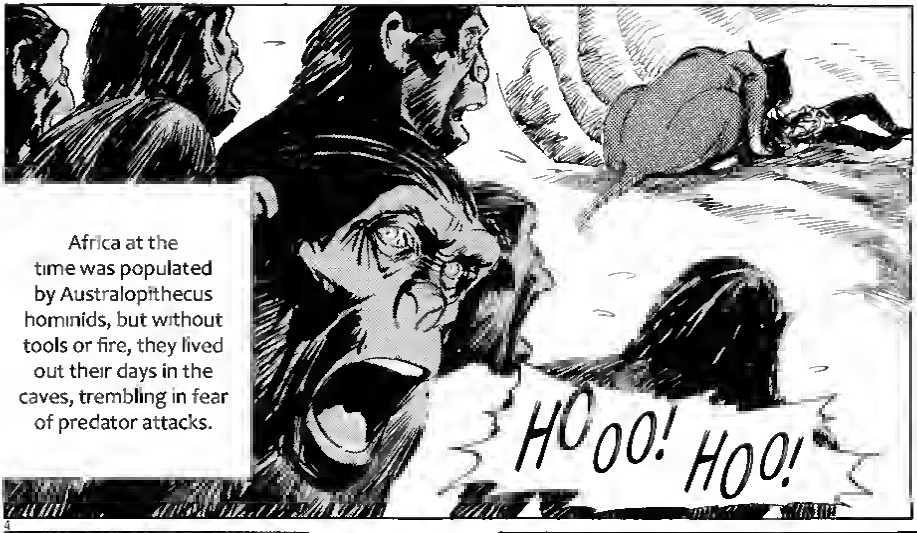


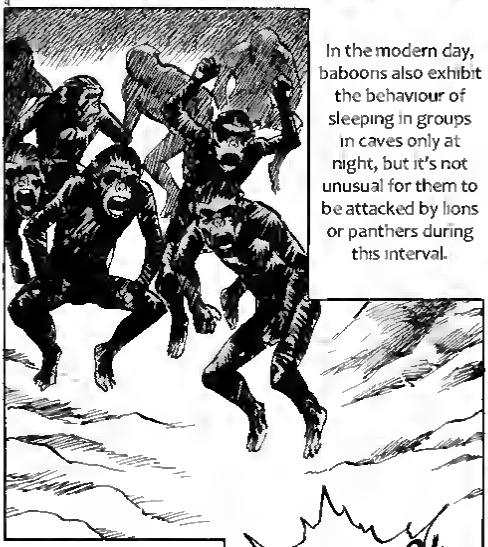
Scanning & Typesetting : GGpX
Translation : Elkin
Editing : Nitouryu & rula
Quality Check : Chuuka
www.illuminati-manga.com
#illuminati_manga@irc.rizon.net


—Three million years ago
The apex of nature were the feline carnivores, such as the dinofelis and panthers. Outside of them, most creatures were the hunted.
Primates were no exception...

GYAHH!...
カッ
カッ
レロレロ
チャチャ
HOOO! HOOO!

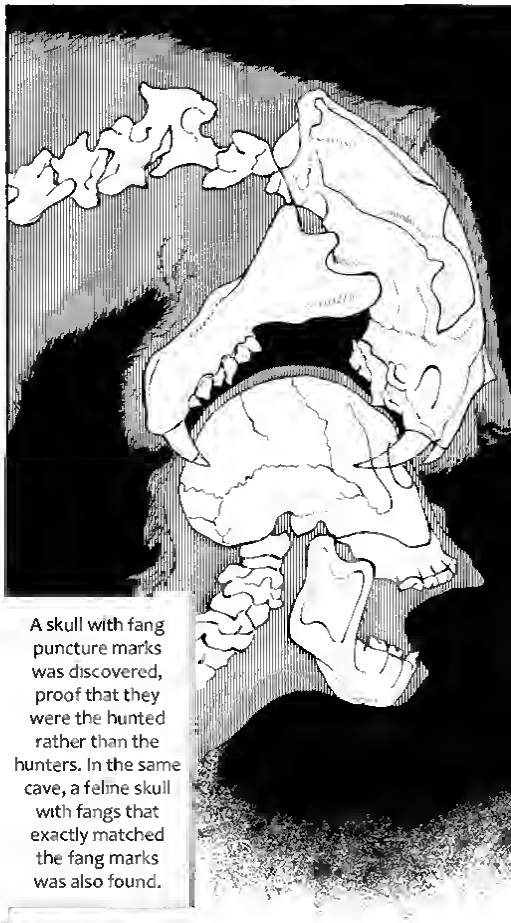


Africa at the time was populated by Australopithecus hominids, but without tools or fire, they lived out their days in the caves, trembling in fear of predator attacks.

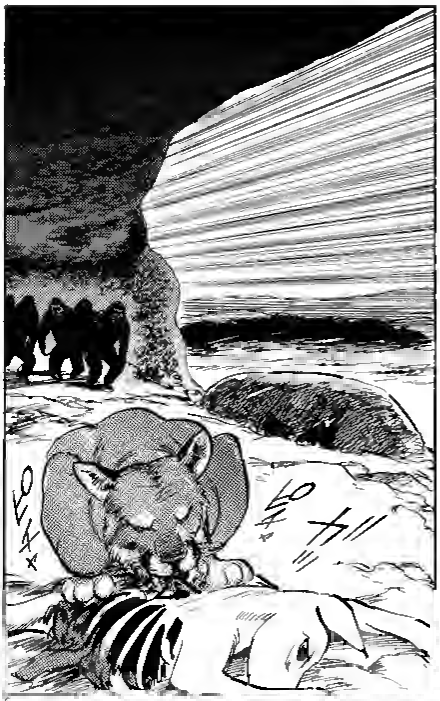


In the modern day, baboons also exhibit the behaviour of sleeping in groups in caves only at night, but it's not unusual for them to be attacked by lions or panthers during this interval.

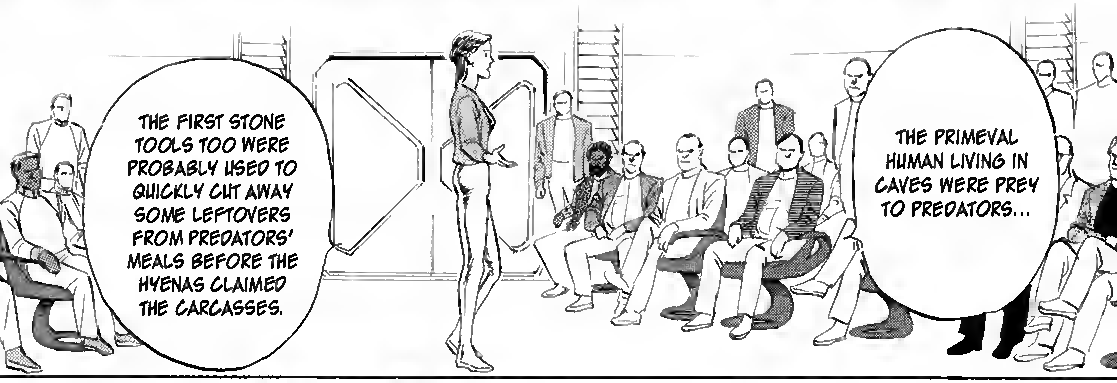
One baboon would be eaten each time, and the other baboons would raise a ruckus without running away or moving to another cave. Humanity's ancestors were probably much the same way..

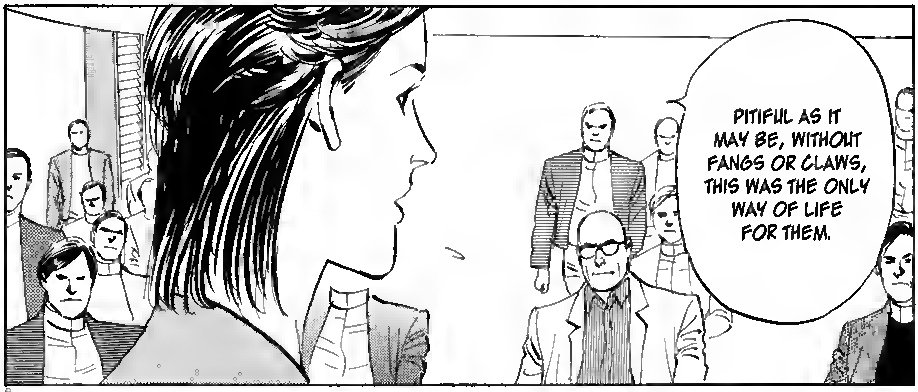


A skull with fang puncture marks was discovered, proof that they were the hunted rather than the hunters. In the same cave, a feline skull with fangs that exactly matched the fang marks was also found.


ムシャ
ムシャ
ムシャ

CHI!
CHI!
CHI!
CHI!
CHI!
CHI!


THE FIRST STONE TOOLS TOO WERE PROBABLY USED TO QUICKLY CUT AWAY SOME LEFTOVERS FROM PREDATORS' MEALS BEFORE THE HYENAS CLAIMED THE CARCASSES.
THE PRIMEVAL HUMAN LIVING IN CAVES WERE PREY TO PREDATORS...


PITIFUL AS IT MAY BE, WITHOUT FANGS OR CLAWS, THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY OF LIFE FOR THEM.

NOW, THE PROBLEM BEGINS HERE—
SO EVERYTHING UP TO THIS POINT IS VALID EVEN IF WE TAKE AWAY THE ASSUMPTION THAT *THE MOON DID NOT EXIST AT THE TIME.*

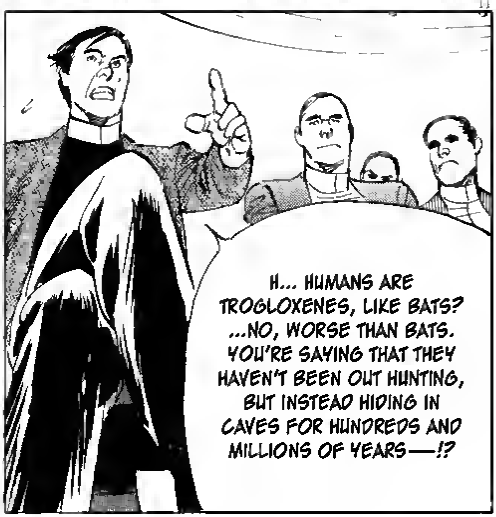
WHY DID HUMANS HAVE SO LITTLE HAIR AS MAMMALS?
DURING MY TIME AT THE ANTHROPOLOGY CENTRE, THERE WERE MANY THINGS I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND. ONE OF THEM WAS...
THEN THERE ARE THOSE THAT LIVE IN BURROWS UNDERGROUND, SUCH AS THE NAKED MOLE RAT.
THERE ARE ONLY VERY FEW MAMMALS THAT HAVE LITTLE FUR— ELEPHANTS AND THE HIPPOPOTAMUS LIVING IN TROPICAL RAINFORESTS WITH LARGE BODY MASSES, AND THE AQUATIC SEA LION AND SEAL.
HOMO SAPIENS DON'T BELONG TO ANY OF THOSE CATEGORIES AND ARE THE ONLY "NAKED APE" AMONGST PRIMATES—
BECAUSE OF THAT, THERE'S A THEORY THAT THIS WAS AN ADAPTATION TO AQUATIC LIFE IN THE PAST.
HOWEVER, I HAVE A DIFFERENT VIEW—

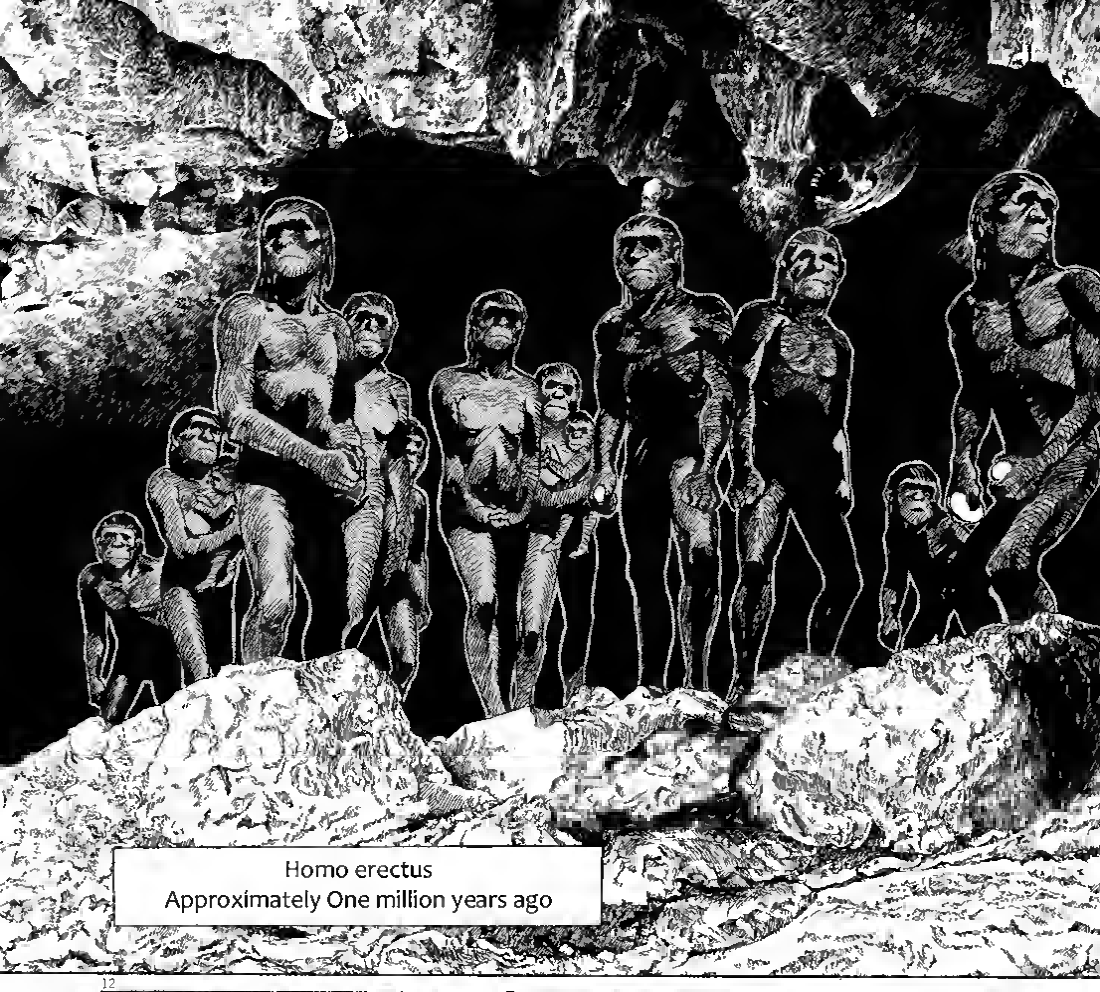
LET'S TAKE AN EARTH THAT WAS CREATED WITHOUT A MOON, WITH A REVOLUTION SPEED THREE TIMES OF OURS. IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, DAY FALLS AND NIGHT BEGINS
ONLY VENTURING OUT TO GATHER FOOD AND WATER FROM TIME TO TIME...
IN THESE CONDITIONS, HUMANS WOULD HAVE PROBABLY SPENT ALMOST ALL THEIR TIME IN CAVES.
IN THE MOONLESS, PITCH-BLACK DARKNESS, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GO OUTSIDE. EVEN DURING THE DAY, GALES ARE BLASTING THROUGH EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH AND PREDATORS ARE ON THE PROWL...

SUCH AN ADAPTATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR LIVING IN THE HUMID CAVES, WHICH ARE HOT BEDS FOR BACTERIA AND THE LIKE.
AMONG TROGLOXENE MAMMALS IS THE BAT, WITH EXTREMELY SHORT FUR, TO THE POINT WHERE IT IS VIRTUALLY HAIRLESS—

T/N The mangaka uses cave dwelling but as it turns out bats are trogloxenes (cave guests) rather than troglobites (true cave dwellers). Since they're supposedly top scientists, I figured they'd be more particular about their use of words.

IN THAT CASE, WOULDN'T THE SPARSE BODY HAIR ON THE HUMAN BODY BE EVIDENCE THAT THEY HAD LIVED FOR AN INCREDIBLY LONG TIME IN CAVES?


H... HUMANS ARE TROGLOXENES, LIKE BATS? ...NO, WORSE THAN BATS. YOU'RE SAYING THAT THEY HAVEN'T BEEN OUT HUNTING, BUT INSTEAD HIDING IN CAVES FOR HUNDREDS AND MILLIONS OF YEARS—!?

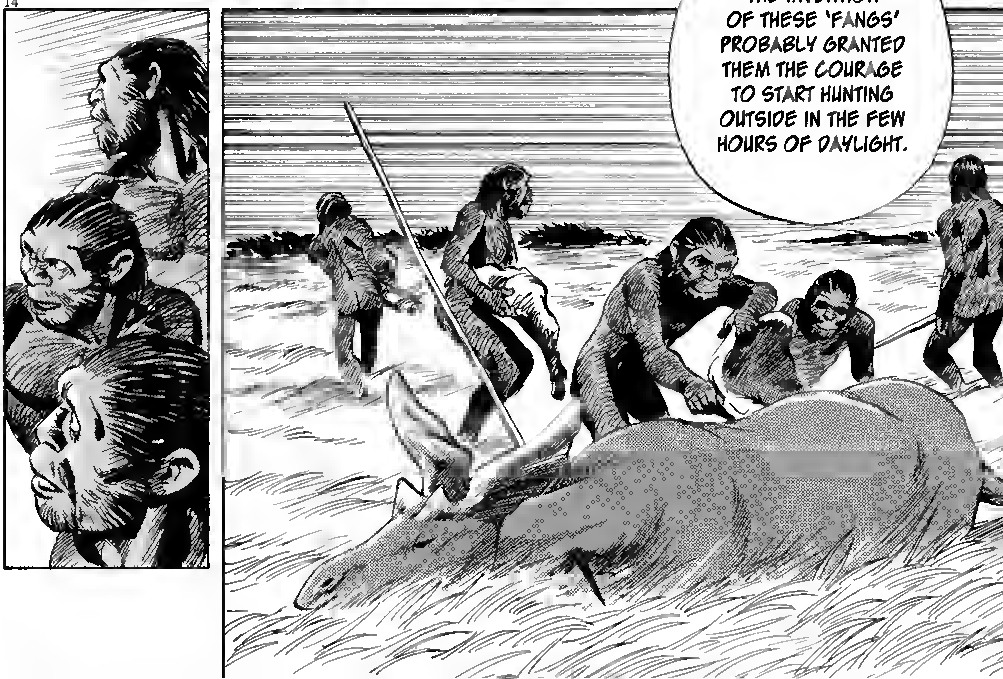

Homo erectus
Approximately One million years ago

12

WE DID EVOLVE. IN THE CAVES, USING THE LIGHT SHINING IN FROM OUTSIDE...

62

ANOTHER REASON FOR HAVING LESS FUR MIGHT HAVE BEEN TO REDUCE ONE'S SCENT. YOUR CHANCES OF SURVIVAL ARE HIGHER IN THE DARK IF YOU HAVE A LESS DISCERNABLE SCENT.

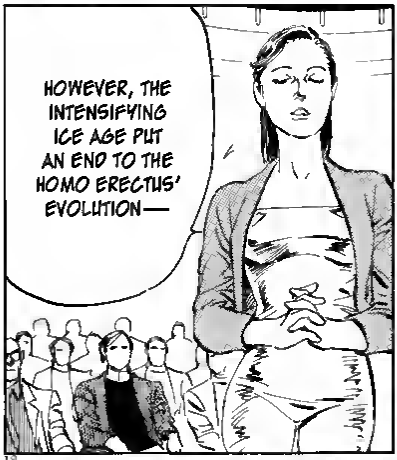

THE INVENTION OF THESE 'FANGS' PROBABLY GRANTED THEM THE COURAGE TO START HUNTING OUTSIDE IN THE FEW HOURS OF DAYLIGHT.

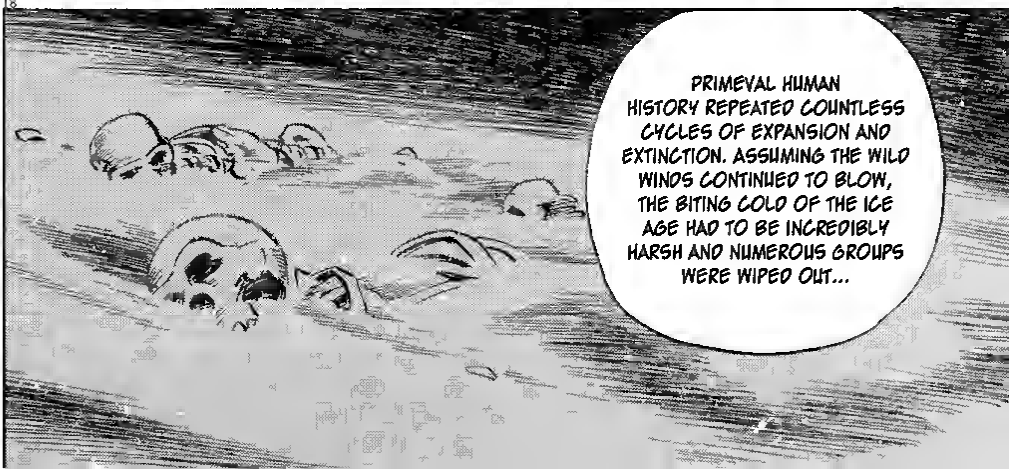
WILD FIRES—
AFRICA, WHICH HARDLY EVER GOT HIT WITH CYCLONES, PROBABLY DIDN'T HAVE ANY SUPER HURRICANES EITHER, BUT WILD FIRES WERE FEARSOME DISASTERS TO BE RECKONED WITH UNDER THE GALE WINDS...
HUMANS MIGHT HAVE GROWN USED TO MOVING TO OTHER CAVES WHEN THEY COULD NO LONGER LIVE IN THEIR EXISTING ONE, WHEREUPON...

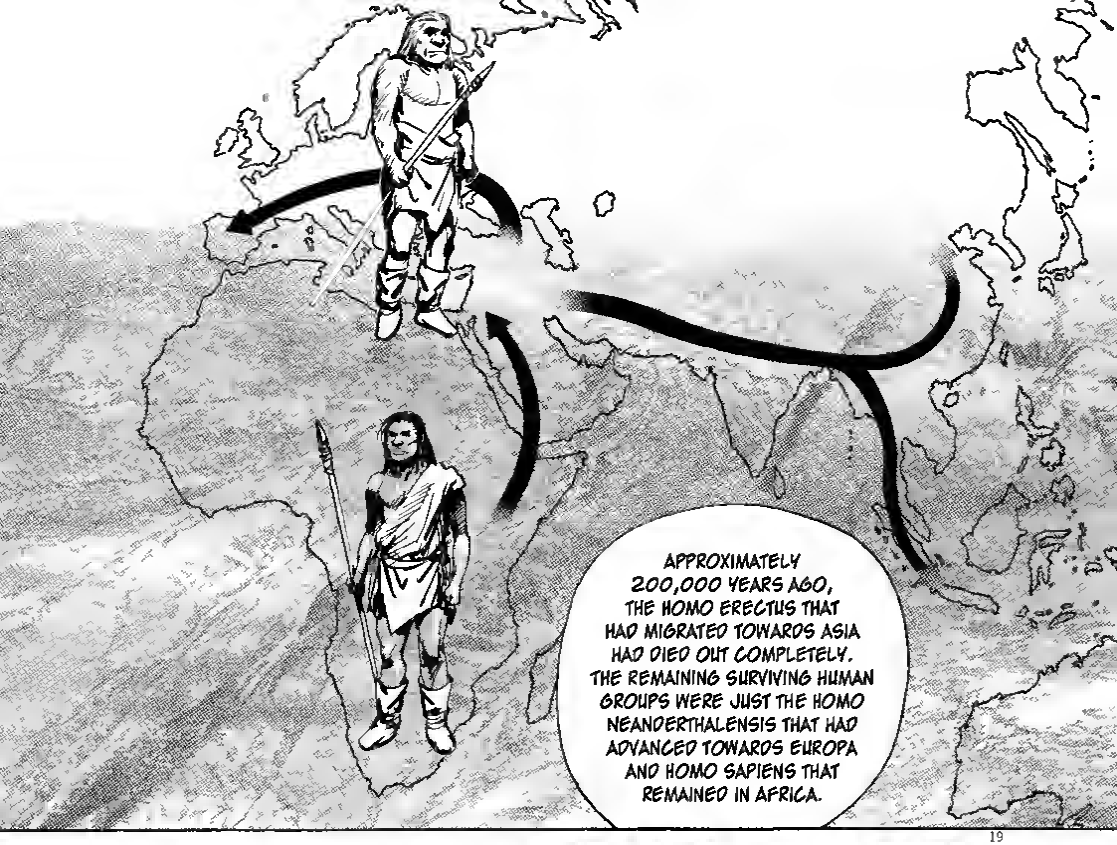
ABOUT 800,000 YEARS AGO, THEY GOT AHOLD OF 'LIGHT'. THIS ENABLED THEM TO WORK EVEN IN THE NIGHT.

TEMPERATURES AROUND THE WORLD STARTED DROPPING DAY BY DAY. FLORA AND FAUNA ALIKE CHANGED, AND THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE HOMO ERECTUS TOOK A DRASTIC TURN.
SEEKING WARMER CLIMATES, THEY TREKKED OUT OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AND EXPANDED INTO EUROPE AND ASIA.
AND A NUMBER OF THEM PROBABLY MIGRATED ALONG THE SEA CAVES LINING THE COASTLINE.

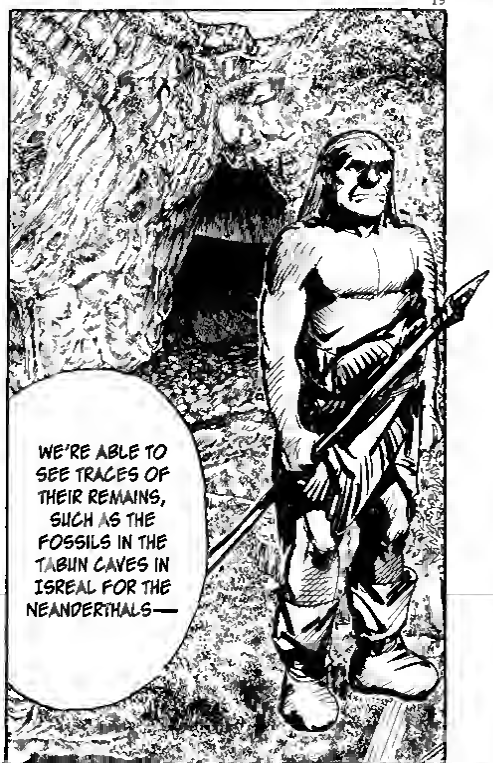
THESE SEA CAVES WERE FORMED BY THE POUNDING WAVES ERODING INTO THE CLIFFS, AND AS THE CONTINENT ROSE, BECAME CAVES THAT LINED THE COASTLINE. THEY BECAME EXCELLENT PLACES TO COLLECT ANY SEA CREATURES THAT WERE WASHED UP BY THE WAVES.


HOWEVER, THE INTENSIFYING ICE AGE PUT AN END TO THE HOMO ERECTUS' EVOLUTION—


PRIMEVAL HUMAN HISTORY REPEATED COUNTLESS CYCLES OF EXPANSION AND EXTINCTION. ASSUMING THE WILD WINDS CONTINUED TO BLOW, THE BITING COLD OF THE ICE AGE HAD TO BE INCREDIBLY HARSH AND NUMEROUS GROUPS WERE WIPED OUT...


APPROXIMATELY 200,000 YEARS AGO, THE HOMO ERECTUS THAT HAD MIGRATED TOWARDS ASIA HAD DIED OUT COMPLETELY. THE REMAINING SURVIVING HUMAN GROUPS WERE JUST THE HOMO NEANDERTHALENSIS THAT HAD ADVANCED TOWARDS EUROPA AND HOMO SAPIENS THAT REMAINED IN AFRICA.

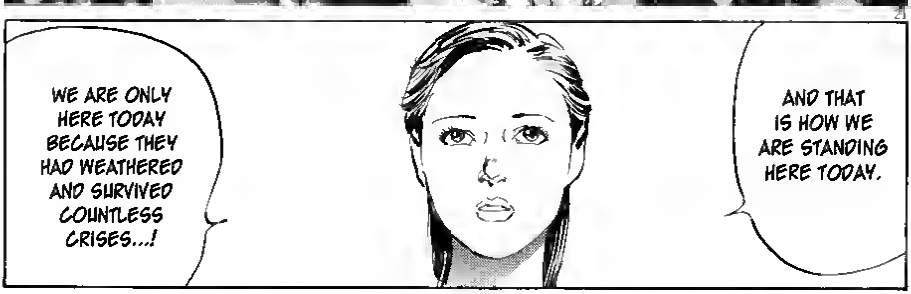
AND THE "CRO-MAGNON MAN", WHICH MEANS THE "HOLE IN MAGNON" IN OCCITAN, OR BETTER KNOWN AS THE HOMO SAPIENS, WHICH WAS FOUND IN THE BORDER CAVES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

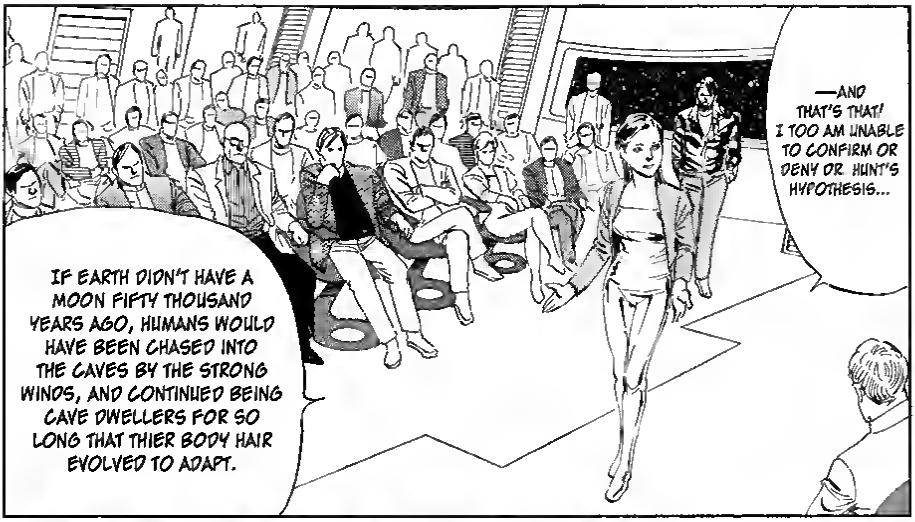


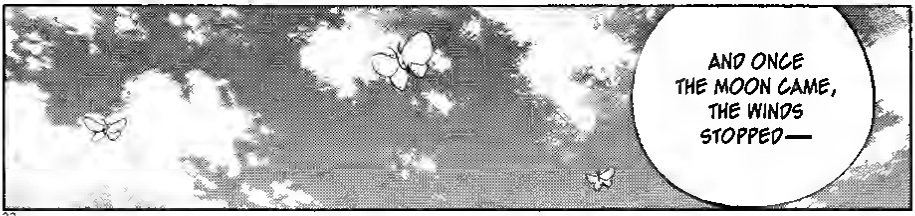
T/L Note: Mangaka actually put the "archaic French" translation for Cro-Magnon as "the big hole man". However this is wrong on two fronts. 1. "cro" is not archaic French but Occitan, a romance language spoken in places such as southern France, Italy's Occitan Valleys etc. and 2. "Cro-Magnon" actually means the "hole/cavity in Magnon".

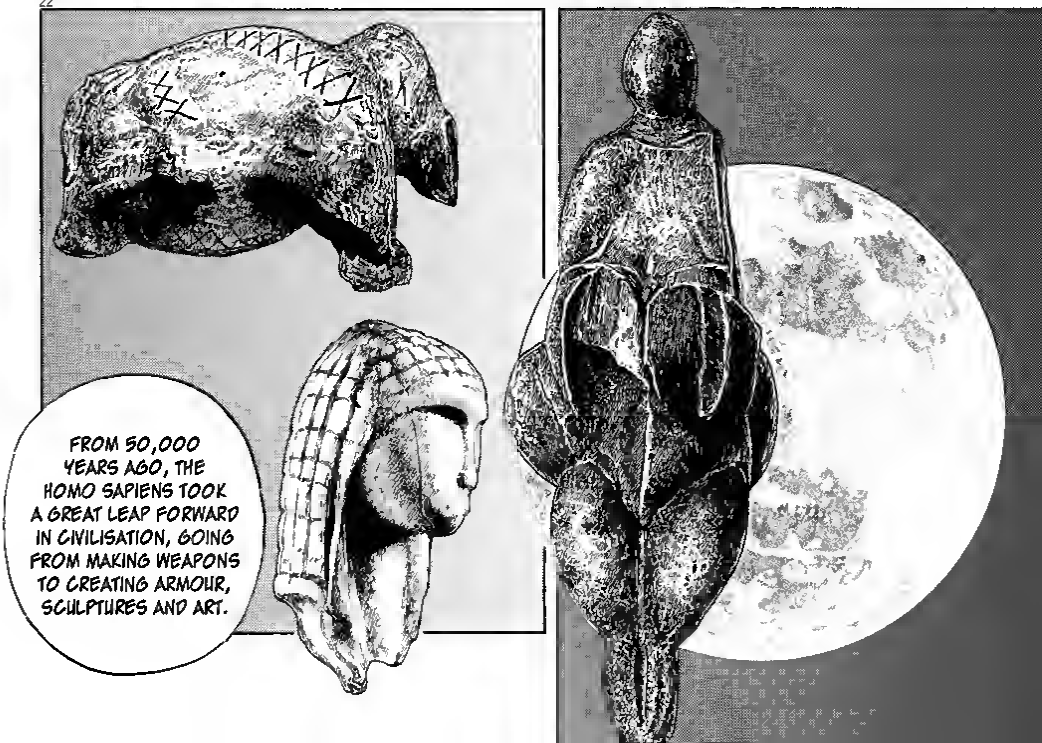
DURING THE PERIOD FROM 195,000 TO 123,000 YEARS AGO, THE HOMO SAPIENS WERE DRIVEN TO THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION BY THE WORSENING CLIMATE CHANGE...
THEY WERE WHITTLED DOWN TO A THOUSAND-ODD THAT MANAGED TO SURVIVE IN THE CAVES ALONG THE SOUTHERN TIP OF AFRICA, AND THEY WOULD BECOME THE ANCESTORS FOR THE MODERN-DAY HUMAN.

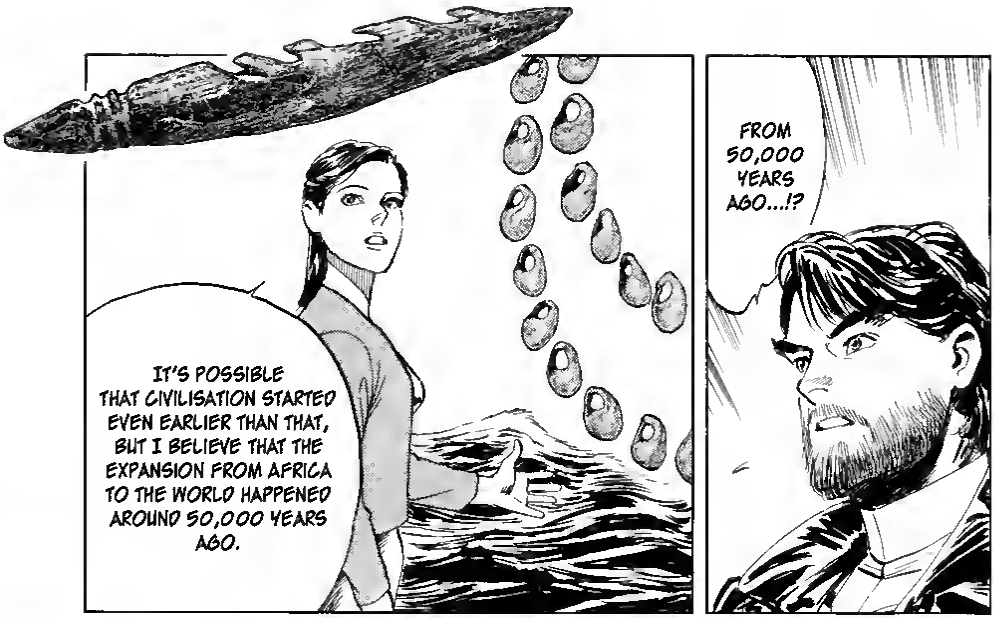
DESPITE ALL THE HARDSHIPS, THEY SURVIVED. AS THE ICE AGE FINALLY CAME TO AN END, THEY STARTED MIGRATING ALONG THE COASTLINES ONCE MORE, AND THIS TIME, THEY SPREAD ACROSS THE ENTIRE WORLD.


WE ARE ONLY HERE TODAY BECAUSE THEY HAD WEATHERED AND SURVIVED COUNTLESS CRISES...!
AND THAT IS HOW WE ARE STANDING HERE TODAY.


IF EARTH DIDN'T HAVE A MOON FIFTY THOUSAND YEARS AGO, HUMANS WOULD HAVE BEEN CHASED INTO THE CAVES BY THE STRONG WINDS, AND CONTINUED BEING CAVE DWELLERS FOR SO LONG THAT THIER BODY HAIR EVOLVED TO ADAPT.
—AND THAT'S THAT! I TOO AM UNABLE TO CONFIRM OR DENY OR HUNT'S HYPOTHESIS...


AND ONCE THE MOON CAME, THE WINDS STOPPED—


FROM 50,000 YEARS AGO, THE HOMO SAPIENS TOOK A GREAT LEAP FORWARD IN CIVILISATION, GOING FROM MAKING WEAPONS TO CREATING ARMOUR, SCULPTURES AND ART.


IT'S POSSIBLE THAT CIVILISATION STARTED EVEN EARLIER THAN THAT, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THE EXPANSION FROM AFRICA TO THE WORLD HAPPENED AROUND 50,000 YEARS AGO.
FROM 50,000 YEARS AGO...!?